Vancouver metro

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

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Vancouver metro

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COURTESY CANADIAN PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE

Golden MLA

Michelle Stilwell tops Paralympic podium — for the fifth time

metroNEWS

Protection for renters

HOUSING CRISIS

City staff to present reports on empty homes tax and Airbnb

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

Vancouver is moving forward with its plans to battle the city's near-zero vacancy rental rate in the coming weeks.

City staff have been working on two reports on regulation in the rental market — one on an empty homes tax and another on Airbnb regulations.

The empty homes tax could affect as many as 10,800 homes sitting empty, according to a release from the mayor's office on Sunday.

"Housing needs to be first and foremost about homes, not to be treated as a commodity," said Mayor Gregor Robertson in a written statement.

"Vancouver will continue to do all it can to maintain and protect affordable rental homes, advocate for renters in this tough rental market and pursue all tools available to ensure the best use of all our housing."

More than half of Vancouverites are renters, according to the city.

Robertson also called on the B.C. government to close the loopholes in the Residential Tenancy Act that allow renovictions and to enable cities to impose higher fines on landlords who break the rules.

He encourages tenants to learn their rights and access the city's resources to protect themselves.

RENOVICTION Tenants question B.C. laws in wake of unsuccessful housing fight metroNEWS

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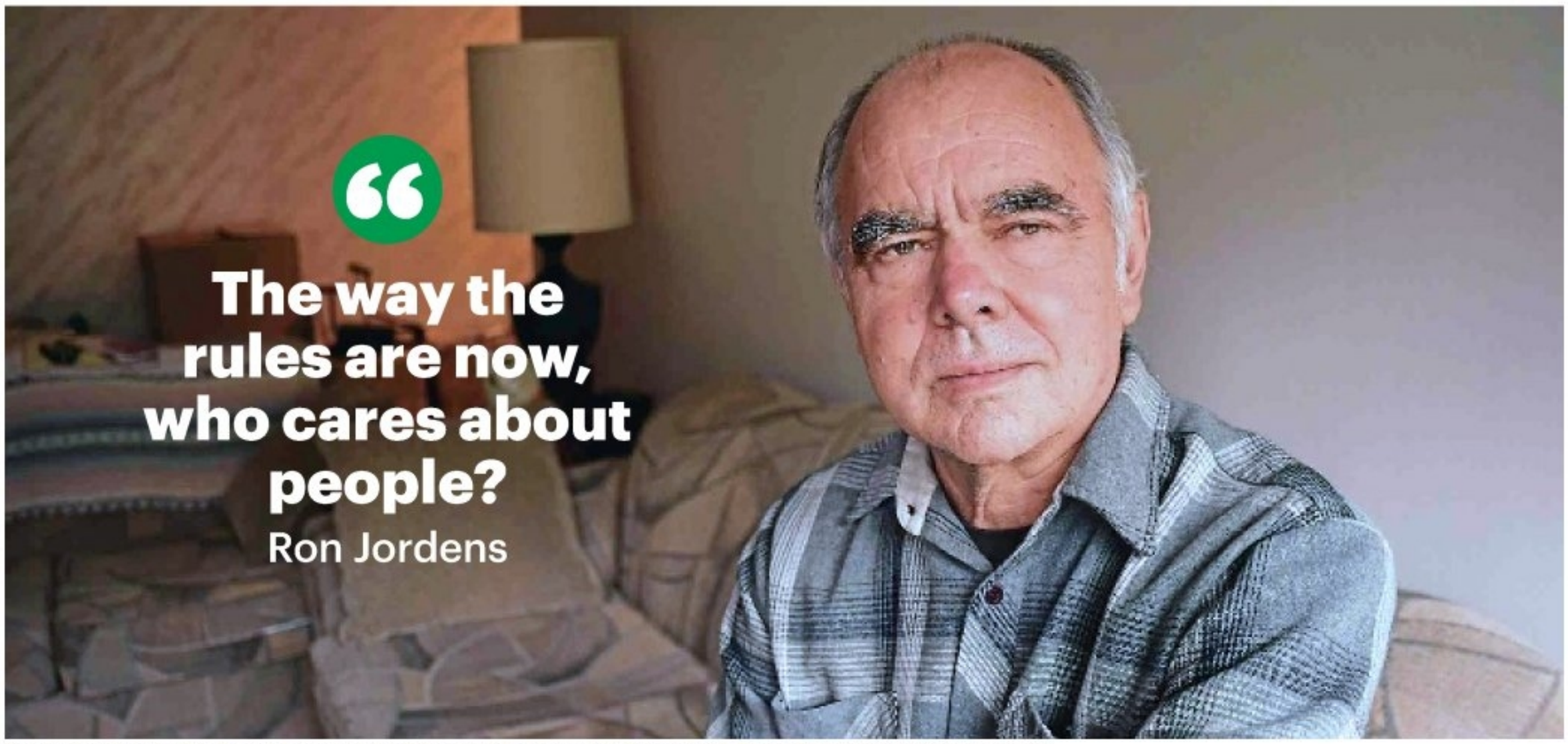
metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Hillary Clinton's illness captures attention at 9/11 anniversary ceremony. **World**



Ron Jordens is one of the former tenants of the Alderwood Apartments in Vancouver's Mount Pleasant. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

Tenants say fight was futile

REAL ESTATE

Evicted renters question laws

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

For the Wall Financial Corporation, one of Vancouver's largest and most politically connected real-estate companies, it was simply good business.

"The renovated units at the Ambleside property are re-rented once complete and are achieving on average 24 per cent higher re-rental rates," reads the public company's annual report to shareholders for 2016.

"At the Seafair property, one of the two buildings has completed upgrades to all 39 units and a major overhaul of the plumbing system. All of these units have now been re-rented at an average increase of $500 per month."

But for the tenants of the Alderwood Apartments in Vancouver's Mount Pleasant neighbourhood, being evicted from their homes of many years was stressful and frustrating. They feel they were pushed out for tenants who could afford to pay much higher rents.

Renters across Metro Vancouver are facing a very low vacancy rate and a period of rapid rate growth, which has mirrored the steep increase in home prices.

"People are working, making a decent wage, but they can't afford to live here," said Ron Jordens, a 72-year-old retired engineer and former Alderwood tenant. "The way the rules are now, the free market enterprise, just let it run wild — and who cares about people?"

Land title documents show that real-estate developer Peter Wall has owned the Alderwood since 1990. His nephew, Bruno Wall, president of Wall Financial, did not respond to Metro's request for comment.

The Walls have donated substantial sums to the B.C. Liberals and Vision Vancouver and have been supporters of both Premier Christy Clark and Mayor Gregor Robertson.

The tenants say they were offered a chance to move into one of the renovated suites — but at an increase of around $500 per month.

One of Jordens' neighbours was initially successful in fighting the eviction notice she received in December 2015. According to a Residential Tenancy Board (RTB) judgement, the property owner had failed to receive the necessary building permits before issuing the two-month eviction notice. The property manager gave contradictory answers about the type of work the company wanted to do and whether building permits were needed.

But the neighbour received another eviction notice six months later, this time because the company said it needed the unit for its own use or for a family member. In the tight rental market, the tenant has been unable to find another rental and will likely have to stay with her ex-husband. She would like to move into one of the renovated suites but has been told there are none available. Furthermore, she claims, the building's management is questioning her ability to pay the new higher rent.

Others, such as Jordens, Kevin Powell and Chris Bell, decided to find new apartments. Jordens has retroactively filed a grievance with the RTB after he and other tenants saw a stop work order from the City of Vancouver posted on the front door of the building. He believes Wall Financial did not have permits in place at the time he received his eviction notice and hopes to get a financial settlement from the company.

Powell, a house painter and single father of two, and Bell, a cook at popular food truck Tacofino, both found it difficult to find new apartments. They were eventually able to find places through personal connections, although Powell now lives in Port Coquitlam and faces a long commute.

NDP MLA Spencer Chandra Herbert has advocated for tenants who have fought renovictions in the past. He said the tactic of issuing eviction notices before building permits are in place is common, and tenants should always check the validity of the notice.

The Alderwood Apartments at 43 East 15th St.
JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

Tenants should also question whether they can stay in their homes while the work is being done, while other tenant advocates say offering to move out for a few weeks may also be an option. Tenants who work together as a community tend to have a better chance of avoiding eviction, Chandra Herbert said.

"Many tenants we've worked with have written to the landlord saying, 'You don't need to evict me; I'm willing to work with you while you do your renovation,'" Chandra Herbert said. "But most use the law to say you should be mass-evicted, and then I can jack up rents and people believe that's the case — but that's not how the law is supposed to be used."

Minister wins fifth gold

PARALYMPICS

Michelle Stilwell won the T52 400m race in Rio

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

No sitting Canadian politician can boast about five gold medals in international sports.

Until this weekend.

After winning her fifth Paralympic gold on Saturday in Rio de Janeiro, Michelle Stilwell — British Columbia's Minister of Social Development and Social Innovation — now has competed in numerous sports globally and brought home medals in everything from wheelchair basketball to her first title in the 400-metre race.

"The race was fluid" the 42-year-old Parksville-Qualicum Member of the Legislative Assembly said in a statement. "I felt confident and relaxed through the whole race and to cross the line first and to bring the gold home for Canada, well, it was the moment I was working for."

Stilwell has been quadriplegic for 25 years and was elected for her Vancouver Island riding in 2013.

"Congratulations … on your gold medal win!" tweeted Premier Christy Clark, who the same day won the BC Liberals' nomination in the riding she represents for re-election next May. "We're all so proud of you. A well deserved win. #TeamCanada."

Parksville-Qualicum MLA Michelle Stilwell poses with her gold medal after winning the women's T52 400m Saturday with a Paralympic Games record of 1 minute, 05.43 seconds. COURTESY CANADIAN PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE

As a cabinet minister, Stilwell oversees welfare and disability assistance from the province.

And while applause for the star racer's athletic performance resounded on social media, some critics pointed out that the government department she commands has faced outrage from disability advocates for slashing a subsidized bus pass, and alleging many people living with disabilities are kept in poverty by her ministry's $983-a-month disability assistance rate, a mere $77 raise from previous years.

Meanwhile, the advocacy group BC Disability Caucus posted to its Facebook, "(Premier) Clark is using her win in Rio as a political manoeuvre to improve Stilwell's reputation as a Minister and MLA and to distract the public from the issues affecting persons with disabilities who are under her Stilwell's Ministry."

New Democrat leader John Horgan called Stilwell's decision to cut transit passes "cold-hearted …. We could have increased the basic pension for people with disabilities and continued to allow those who needed or used public transportation to continue to have a bus pass."

In an April 13 speech to the legislature, Stilwell defended her decision to make people receiving assistance pay for their bus pass out of their $77 monthly raise.

"The fact is everyone who receives persons-with-disabilities assistance will now receive a transportation allowance," she told MLAs. "Everyone, including the 45,000 people who were never receiving transportation support, will now receive it.

"We have made a $170 million investment to help raise the rates for people with disabilities … providing everyone with transportation across this province, no matter where they live. Now the system will be fair and equitable for everyone."

IN BRIEF

Mountie involved in child luring case released

A Surrey police officer linked with a sting by a vigilante group has been released Saturday. A spokesman for the B.C. RCMP says the officer remains suspended from duty. Assistant Commissioner Brenda Butterworth-Carr told reporters Friday that an unnamed Mountie was in custody while police investigate allegations of child luring and sexual exploitation.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

No damages reported following earthquake

A 4.0 magnitude earthquake hit the South Okanagan on Saturday morning. Earthquakes Canada says the tremor was centred about 40 kilometres south of Penticton, near the town of Oliver. The centre of the earthquake was one kilometre below the surface. The tremor hit at 9:16 a.m. and was lightly felt across the region from Bridesville in the east and as far north as Lake Country.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

B.C. man, 34, killed in northern Ontario collision

Police say a B.C. man is dead after a collision in northern Ontario. Ontario Provincial Police say a car and an SUV collided on Highway 17, about an hour outside of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. They say the driver of the car, James Butchers, 34, of Victoria was pronounced dead at the scene. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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DISCIPLINE

Rethink on sex assaults called for

An expert panel is calling for a sweeping transformation of the University of British Columbia's approach to sexual assaults, after speaking with survivors and campus members who said they lacked faith in the system.

The panel urges new disciplinary processes for students and faculty accused of sexual violence, clear timeframes for handling complaints and a central office to co-ordinate response, according to a report obtained by The Canadian Press.

Titled Sexual Assault at the University of British Columbia: Prevention, Response and Accountability, the report was submitted to the president's office in June and is expected to be released this week.

"We heard that stakeholders want UBC leadership to step up, to be accountable and to show survivors and advocates that they have been listened to," the report says.

The university decided to create a standalone sex assault policy after allegations it mishandled multiple complaints about a male PhD student. Interim president Martha Piper appointed the six-member panel in February to make recommendations.

A separate committee wrote a draft sexual assault policy that was released in June. Public consultations on the policy will now be extended so the panel's recommendations can be considered.

The panel of five professors and a PhD graduate drew on their own expertise, researched other institutions' policies, conducted in-person consultations with about 50 people and received emails from another 40.

The panel repeatedly heard there was a "general mistrust" of UBC's approach and that the university had failed to demonstrate accountability, causing some students to feel they had no choice but to go to the media, the report says.

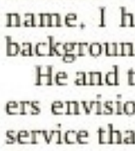
"We also heard that many more cases of sexual assault continue to be silenced, as survivors are ashamed of the stigma they will face if they speak out or are afraid of the consequences of reporting," it says.

The panel makes dozens of recommendations aimed at institutional transformation, accountability, education, prevention and a survivor-centred response to disclosures and reports. Among them is a proposal to create a separate disciplinary process for sexual assaults. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Startup helps companies hire a diverse workforce

DIVERSITY

Entrepreneur seeks to take bias away from hiring process



Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

A Vancouver startup called HRx Technology is aiming to help companies build a diverse workforce by taking unconscious bias out of the picture for recruiters.

Entrepreneur Wyle Baoween started looking for a job after he received his MBA with optimism — after all, he was top of his class at the University of Victoria and on their Top 25 to Watch list. But it took applications to hundreds of companies for one to finally give him an interview.

He got the job.

Four years later, he wants to ensure no one faces the same barriers he did.

"Really what I needed was an interview. And I couldn't get it," said Baoween, who is originally from Yemen.

"It was really hard for me because I had an unfamiliar name, I had an unfamiliar background."

He and two other co-founders envisioned a recruitment service that offered an online database of "blind profiles" that companies could search through to find job candidates.

The selection process is similar to the idea for The Voice, a TV show where music judges can't see what contestants look like, only what they sound like.

Vancouverite Wyle Baoween is one of three co-founders of HRx Technology, a service that aims to help companies hire a diverse workforce based on merit. COURTESY HRX TECHNOLOGY

> "Really what I needed was an interview. And I couldn't get it."
> Wyle Baoween

The profiles in HRx would be scrubbed of information that could trigger a bias to ensure recruiters chose candidates based on merit alone and not an unconscious preference toward certain schools, for example.

"The profiles do not show your name, your gender, your age," explained Baoween.

"It even takes off the name of the company you worked with and the name of the schools you attended."

The company is opening its website up to candidates Saturday, Sept. 18 and already has support from The Minerva Foundation, an group that advocates for gender diversity.

Baoween, 37, told Metro the discussion around diversity has changed in recent years.

"In the past, companies who cared about diversity cared because it was the right thing to do. Now … they are starting to believe that diversity really brings value to the business."

But there is still a long way to go, said Baoween, who recalls people giving him advice about what to name his now one-year old daughter.

"People said if you give her an unfamiliar name, she will have a hard time finding a job."

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Centre for residential school survivors breaks ground

Cindy Tom-Lindley says her grandmother had all her children taken to residential schools and the family had no choice but to comply with the federal government policy designed to assimilate aboriginal people.

Generations of her family would experience the abusive system with Tom-Lindley herself spending three intermittent years at the Kamloops Indian Residential School.

"The pain and the suffering that our people have endured is very real," she said.

The Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre being developed at the University of British Columbia will house stories from survivors like Tom-Lindley and her family to ensure their experiences aren't forgotten.

The centre acts as a west coast branch for the national archive of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission based at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg.

Audio and visual records collected by the commission will be presented in interactive displays so that visitors to the centre can explore the materials and draw their own conclusions about the history, said Linc Kesler, director of the university's First Nations House of Learning.

Kesler said educating Canadians is one of the goals of the centre in order to improve relationships between aboriginal people and non-aboriginal people.

CONSTRUCTION

Construction for the centre, which will be located in the middle of the University of B.C.'s Point Grey campus, begins Monday.

"We want this to be a place … where people can say ok, this is the history, we understand this, this is what brought us to this point, our society is now in this state because these things happened and evolved this way, and we now have some choices about what we want to see next," he said.

For communities traumatized across generations in the 150 years the residential school system operated, Kesler said the centre also provides the opportunity for young aboriginal people to learn about the history and understand how their lives may be affected by that trauma.

"It's not just understanding what happened to a grandparent, it's understanding what happened to you and what you can do about it," Kesler said.

Tom-Lindley, a member of the Upper Nicola Band of the Okanagan Nation, said she never learned the languages of her ancestors.

Although her mother spoke three indigenous languages, after being forced into residential school, she only taught her children English.

Tom-Lindley, now a grandmother herself, said her grandchildren are taking classes to learn their native languages but more must be done to protect and resurrect the culture.

She said she hopes the centre can serve as a place to share traditions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

No chill from helmet law: Researcher

TRANSPORTATION

Surveys suggest cyclists put it low on their list of barriers

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

British Columbia's mandatory bike helmet law doesn't seem to be discouraging users of the Vancouver's new bike share system, according to preliminary research from researchers at Simon Fraser University.

"We're collecting data on usage of bike helmets amongst usage of public bike share users, so we're on the street right now counting how much they use and how they don't," said Meghan Winters, a health sciences professor who studies the link between transportation and health. "But what I can say is that it appears to be not too different from (the general cycling population)."

There were fears that Vancouver's mandatory bike helmet law would prevent people from using the system. But Winters' research, based on surveys in 2012 and 2015, suggests the bike helmet rule is low on the list of things users say would prevent them from using the system.

"The factors that are important with whether or not people will use bike share have to do with rain and adverse weather, whether there are separated cycling facilities and connected networks of bike routes in their area, the costs associated with the membership, and then maybe we would talk about helmets."

Mobi is in the midst of rolling out more stations and has increased the number of staff to rebalance the bikes.

Jason Bernknopf and Audrey Gil, visiting from Austin, Texas, rent Mobi bikes for the first time on Aug. 21. LAURA FORTEY/FOR METRO

INDIGENOUS RIGHTS

Site C project flouts constitution: Chief

The federal government's approach to the Site C dam project in B.C. is not in keeping with Canada's constitution nor with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, says Assembly of First Nations National Chief Perry Bellegarde.

The multibillion-dollar project — a proposed dam and hydroelectric generating station on B.C.'s Peace River — would create an 83-kilometre reservoir and flood farm land along traditional First Nations territory.

"Why don't they respect and follow their own constitution? Section 35. Existing aboriginal treaty rights," Bellegarde said in an interview with The Canadian Press.

The project also goes against the Trudeau government's pledge to have a nation-to-nation relationship, Bellegarde added, noting it involves flooding a valley where indigenous people have lived, hunted, trapped, fished and gathered medicines.

"It really comes back to building a healthy, respectful relationship with indigenous peoples and we just don't see it happening here in this instance," he said.

The Prime Minister's Office did not respond to a request for comment on Bellegarde's remarks. Justin Trudeau has repeatedly expressed his commitment to make indigenous issues his No. 1 priority and has promised to recognize their inherent rights.

The national chief's comments come ahead of a key Federal Court of Appeal hearing on Site C scheduled for Monday in Montreal. THE CANADIAN PRESS

> There's indigenous peoples buried throughout that valley so you're disrespecting inherent rights, you're disrespecting treaty rights.
> Perry Bellegarde

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A naloxone nasal injector is demonstrated during a news conference at the Oakley Kroger Marketplace store in Cincinnati.
JOHN MINCHILLO/AP PHOTO

Police to get naloxone

FENTANYL

Officers in B.C. have had OD symptoms due to exposure

Vancouver police officers and support staff will soon have access to the nasal-spray form of naloxone to protect themselves against accidental exposure to toxic opioids such as fentanyl.

Chief Adam Palmer said employees are increasingly coming into contact with potentially dangerous drugs at work.

He said it's essential to provide them with medication used to block or reverse the effects of opioids, which have caused hundreds of overdose deaths in Vancouver and across the country. Exposure to the drugs can also cause extreme drowsiness, slowed breathing or loss of consciousness.

Sgt. Brian Montague said there are reports of police officers in the United States experiencing overdose symptoms during drug investigations, including two officers with the New York Police Department.

"They began to get dizzy, it affected their breathing, they began to pass out and both of them said they thought they were going to die," he said Friday.

Three officers in British Columbia also recently experienced overdose symptoms after handling drugs or exhibits contaminated with fentanyl, Montague said, adding the cities involved have not been disclosed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Rose quartz statues stolen from tourist attraction

A theft in Vancouver's Chinatown district is giving a whole new meaning to the term cat burglar, and police hope the public will help them pounce on the culprit.

Sgt. Brian Montague says that between 6 p.m. Tuesday and 8 a.m. Wednesday, someone stole two rose quartz lion statues from in front of the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden.

Montague says investigators want to hear from anyone who may know who snatched the unique lions or where the statues ended up. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Officer charged in boy's death

An RCMP officer is due back in court next month after being charged in the death of a five-year-old boy who was struck at a Penticton intersection.

Const. Ace Jimmy Stewart is charged with driving without due care and attention in the death of James McIntosh one year ago.

The BC Criminal Justice Branch says Stewart was not on duty when the vehicle he was operating allegedly struck the boy, who was with his family at the time. THE CANADIAN PRESS

City wants your ideas on a permanent public plaza

The City of Vancouver is looking for the public's feedback on how it should transform the 800 block of Robson Street into a permanent, public plaza.

To provide feedback, residents can visit the 800 block of Robson and answer the questions on the pavement through social media using the hashtag #vivarobson.

Staff will be onsite Sept. 15. You can also email ideas to vivarobson@vancouver.ca.

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Promote a love of reading, group says

EDUCATION

Books getting less and less popular among students

Declining math scores may be on educators' minds right now, but reading is still considered key to student achievement in all subjects.

Now, a cross-Canada coalition is trying to promote a love of books, worried about the growing number of students who say they don't like to read for pleasure.

"There's been a recent trend toward STEM programs (science/technology/engineering/math), and from our perspective ... if you can't read well, you are not doing well in math or science," said Mohamed Huque, associate director of the National Reading Campaign, a not-for-profit that is urging governments and school boards to make the issue a priority.

Teacher-librarian Wayne Parker from North Park Secondary in Brampton, Ont. and his students. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"The positive effect of reading transcends marks for English or language arts; it really does translate beyond academic achievement. There are tons of studies showing the positive effects of reading on mental health (and) building empathy," among other benefits, he added.

At a symposium earlier this year, the campaign crafted a statement saying it's time for "ministries of education, school boards and principals (to) ... adopt policies that make reading for pleasure possible, and that they should be accountable for reporting on the provision of such programs."

In Ontario alone, the percentage of Grade 3 students who say they like to read "most of the time" sat at less than half — 47 per cent in 2013-14, down from 49 per cent the year prior.

Among Grade 6 students, that figure dropped to 47 per cent in 2013-14 from 48 per cent in 2012-13, according to the most up-to-date statistics from the province's Education Quality and Accountability Office, which has also found that kids who read for pleasure perform better on standardized tests over time.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

LGBTQ RIGHTS

Transgender women flee from Finland

Evelyn Harford
For Metro | Ottawa

Amanda Jetté Knox, Emmi Jarvela, Helmi, Juliet Kivimaki and Zoe Knox at a "Welcome to Canada BBQ." CONTRIBUTED

For Juliet Kivimaki, her wife Emmi Jarvela and their one-year-old daughter Helmi, there was no other option but to flee Finland so that Kivimaki could have a shot at living as her true self — a trans woman.

In order for Kivimaki to receive legal gender recognition in Finland, she has to agree to be sterilized.

In desperation, the family of three left Finland behind and found refugee with an Ottawa family who knows a lot about what it means to be trans, and in transition.

Amanda Jetté Knox and her wife, Zoe Knox, just came out as trans last year. The year before that, the couple's 13-year-old daughter, Alexis, came out as trans too.

"It's almost like a cycle," said Jetté Knox. "Every year in our house there's (a) new person ... who's transitioning. Our family is two-thirds trans now."

Because of the common ground, it's been easy for the two families to become one.

"When you're living with another family that has another trans person in it there's no explanation required," said Jetté Knox. "We understand the good days, the bad days and the struggles and the celebrations.

"It's a very nice thing."

The two families first met in at Toronto Pride in July, and shortly after Jetté Knox drove the eight hour round trip drive to Toronto to pick Kivimaki and her family to bring them to Ottawa, where they would have a tighter network and a place to stay.

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Politics cloud ceremony

9-11 ANNIVERSARY

Clinton gets pneumonia diagnosis ahead of election

The U.S. marked the 15th anniversary of 9-11 with the solemn roll call of the dead Sunday but couldn't keep the presidential campaign from intruding on what is traditionally a politics-free moment of remembrance.

Hillary Clinton left about 90 minutes into the ground zero ceremony after feeling "overheated," her campaign said. Video showed her knees buckling as three people helped the 68-year-old Democrat into a van in the muggy, 80-degree heat. Later in the day, she said she was "feeling great" as she walked to a vehicle. Clinton's doctor on Sunday afternoon diagnosed her with pneumonia and she was advised to rest.

A video showed Clinton slumping and being held up by three people as she was helped into a van after the event, and her doctor said in a statement that Clinton had become overheated and dehydrated.

Hillary Clinton waves after leaving an apartment building Sunday, Sept. 11, 2016, in New York. Clinton's campaign said she left the 9-11 anniversary ceremony early after feeling 'overheated.' THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"I have just examined her and she is now rehydrated and recovering nicely," Dr. Lisa R. Bardack said in a statement.

Less than two months from Election Day, it was an unwanted visual for Clinton as she tries to project the strength and vigour needed the job. Republican rival Donald Trump has spent months questioning Clinton's health, saying she doesn't have the stamina to be president.

The episode cast a political shadow over an event that has tried to keep the focus on remembrance by inviting politicians but barring them from speaking. The two candidates had followed the custom of suspending all TV ads for the day.

The politics of the moment weren't entirely absent from the ceremony, where some victims' relatives pleaded for the nation to look past its differences, expressed hopes for peace or called on the next commander-in-chief to ensure the country's safety.

Joseph Quinn, who lost his brother, Jimmy, appealed to Americans to regain the sense of unity that welled up after the terror attacks.

"I know, in our current political environment, it may feel we're divided. Don't believe it," said Quinn, who added that he served in the military in Iraq after Sept. 11. "Engage with your community. ... Be the connection we all desperately need."

Nearly 3,000 people died when terrorists slammed hijacked planes into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, on Sept. 11, 2001.

Organizers estimated 8,000 people gathered Sunday at the lower Manhattan spot where the twin towers once stood. They listened to the nearly four-hour recitation of the names of those killed.

Clinton called off plans to visit the West Coast on Monday and Tuesday following the health episode. She was scheduled to attend fundraisers in California, and tape an episode of Ellen DeGeneres' talk show.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Embrace diversity: Obama

President Barack Obama on Sunday marked the 15th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks by calling on Americans to embrace the nation's character as a people drawn from every corner of the world, from every religion and from every background. He said extremist groups will never be able to defeat the United States.

Obama spoke to hundreds of service members, and relatives and survivors of the Sept. 11, 2001, attack. He said extremist organizations know they can never drive down the U.S., so they focus on trying to instil fear. "We know that our diversity, our patchwork heritage is not a weakness, it is still and always will be one of our greatest strengths," Obama said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Barack Obama observes a moment of silence Sunday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DENVER

Driver killed, students hurt in bus crash

Police say the driver of a school bus that crashed at Denver International Airport circled back to the airport and crashed into a concrete pillar after she picked up members of a high school football team.

Police spokesman John White says police do not know why she circled back to the airport Sunday afternoon. The driver, whose name and age were not been released, died at the scene.

Authorities say that 17 to 20 passengers were taken to nearby hospitals. Officials at Denver Health told the KUSA TV station that they had five patients: two were in critical condition, two were in serious condition and one was in fair condition. The Denver Post reported that five patients in fair condition were taken to Children's Hospital Colorado.

KUSA reported that the bus is from Legacy High School, which is in Broomfield and is part of Adams 12 Five Star Schools. The Denver Post reports that the football team from Legacy played Chino High School on Friday night in California.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Big two back away from pot industry

BANKING

Stores receive letters from Scotiabank, Royal Bank

Scotiabank and the Royal Bank of Canada say they aren't providing accounts to companies associated with the marijuana industry, leaving some business owners scrambling to find alternate arrangements.

After a decade-long relationship with Scotiabank, Hemp Country owner Nathan MacLellan says he received a letter from the bank late last month stating his account was being cancelled. The store in Woodstock, Ont., sells marijuana-related items such as pipes and bongs but no actual cannabis, MacLellan says.

"It's kind of insulting really, especially when legalization is right on the horizon," he said.

Since then, MacLellan has managed to secure an account with a local credit union.

Earlier in August, a fledgling medical marijuana producer said it received a phone call from Scotiabank, advising them that it will no longer be doing business with cannabis-related companies.

Scotiabank spokesman Rick Roth said in an email that it aims to "manage risks soundly while making prudent business decisions."

"This is why the bank has taken the decision to close existing small business accounts and to prohibit the opening of new accounts for customers classified as 'marijuana-related business.'"

Royal Bank also confirmed that it doesn't provide banking services to companies "engaged in the production and distribution of marijuana."

Bruce Linton, the CEO of Canopy Growth Corp., says he received a letter from RBC roughly a year ago informing him the bank was cancelling the licensed producer's account.

He recalls that a few other licensed producers received similar letters around that time.

"My gut feeling is that probably someone in risk analysis somewhere determined that marijuana was a topic which had uncertainty surrounding it," Linton said. "So rather than looking at determining which (companies) were in concert with the laws and which were not, all were treated the same."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

OTHER BANKS

- **TD Bank** said it assesses all applications on a case-by-case basis.
- **CIBC and the Bank of Montreal** did not reply to requests for comment.

Marijuana-related businesses are scrambling to find alternate banking arrangements after two of Canada's biggest banks said they aren't providing accounts to companies in the marijuana industry. THE CANADIAN PRESS

OILSANDS

Firms try to reclaim wetlands

Faced with reclaiming oilsands open-pit mines that were once thriving wetlands, Suncor and Syncrude have been trying to do what's never been done — rebuilding one of the most complex, diverse and delicate ecosystems in the boreal forest.

Three years into the groundbreaking, high-profile projects, early successes are emerging.

Suncor's Nikanotee fen and Syncrude's Sandhills fen are staying wet year-round. They're growing some typical fen plants. Even better, they've begun to store carbon in their peaty depths. But the overall plant mix isn't what it was. Soil and water chemistry has changed. Biodiversity has shrunk. The fens don't seem to be developing into what was there before and nobody really knows how they will evolve.

"We can't kid ourselves," said Jonathan Price of the University of Waterloo, one of the main experts behind Nikanotee. "We can't replace nature." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Your essential daily news
Monday, September 12, 2016

URBAN ETIQUETTE ELLEN VANSTONE

THE QUESTION

I gave my co-worker an idea that he used to great effect. But I didn't get any credit. Am I right to want some?

Dear Ellen,

A while ago, I met up with a co-worker on my morning commute. He was having trouble with a project, so I suggested the approach I would take. He said that was a great idea, and we went our separate ways. Later, after he finished the project, our boss paraded him around, saying how great it was and having him give a presentation on how he implemented the method I suggested that morning on the bus. This irked me, and I even said to him "Isn't that what I suggested?" but he brushed me off. He did do an excellent job, but I wish he'd at least mentioned me when presenting the strategy I came up with. Do I have a right to want acknowledgment?

Irked

Dear Irked,

Rest assured that you have asked the right person about how to deal with this, as I — like most writers — spend a lot of time and energy pondering the problem of idea-stealing b——s who refuse to share credit.

Many a sleepless night has gone by while I writhe with resentment over those monsters who shamelessly exploit my genius, then profit off my original stories and concepts without a word of gratitude, not to mention cold, hard cash.

Unfortunately, some other nights I also lose sleep as I writhe in defensive contortions over certain bits of, er, um, "material" I've scavenged from the lives of everyone around me for my own profit (which doesn't amount to much, I can assure you, in the current freelance-hack marketplace, but nevertheless).

The fact is, anyone involved in a creative endeavour, whether it's an office project or a slim volume of haikus, is constantly mining every moment of the day for fodder and inspiration. It's both conscious and unconscious. I can't speak for Robin Thicke, whose Blurred Lines was found by a jury to be a bad-faith ripoff of Marvin Gaye's Got To Give It Up. But I'd bet my life George Harrison didn't deliberately plagiarize 1963's "He's So Fine" for his 1970 hit "My Sweet Lord."

I'd bet my life George Harrison didn't deliberately plagiarize 1963's He's So Fine for his 1970 hit My Sweet Lord.

In your case, I'll give your co-worker some slack in matters of interpretation, inspiration and execution.

But I will also absolutely agree with you that he should have acknowledged that he brainstormed a bit with you, and that it helped him.

In future, if you want to make sure you get credit, follow up such commuter convos with a friendly email: "Hey, I was thinking more about your project and here is my idea in more detail …" Now you have an e-trail that establishes your claim on proper credit — or, keep in mind, blame, if it all goes sideways.

But an even better approach, if you can do it, is to let it go. Continue to spread your innovative ideas amongst your fellow humans with generosity and enthusiasm, and take deserved satisfaction in knowing you are making the world a better place.

Addendum to last week's column about men in sandals: We've had letters pointing out my inexcusable negligence in addressing the question of socks. Please be advised that, yes, they're a fashion faux pas, but acceptable to those of us who'd rather look at unsexy socks than unsexy feet.

Need advice?
Email Ellen:
scene@metronews.ca

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

Bad-apple approach won't rid us of bias among judges

Who else?

It's abundantly clear that Robin Camp was allowed to sit on a provincial bench (and then enjoy an appointment to federal court) while harbouring sexist biases. But the glum, apologetic Alberta judge, who is now enduring a headline-grabbing inquiry for suggesting a sexual assault victim should have kept "her knees together," is no outlier.

The important question isn't whether Camp will keep his job; it's who else has gone under the radar.

Camp is arguing that he has wised up, thanks to sensitivity and gender-discrimination training, plus a refresher on rape-shield laws. Unlike those demanding his dismissal, I'm willing to believe him. I have to. The alternative is a justice system wholly unreliable and, worse, unfixable.

"By no means is this a unique case, by no means whatever," said Kathleen Mahoney, QC, a law professor at the University of Calgary.

She would know. For decades, Mahoney has been at the centre of judicial-education efforts, part of a movement that has sought to ensure the Charter of Rights and Freedoms doesn't turn out to be an "empty promise." But she and her allies lost a key battle: to make judicial education mandatory.

"To me the Camp case is an indication of the failure of judicial education to ensure that judges, to some extent, are protected from making these kinds of errors," Mahoney said.

The excuse has always been that mandatory training would infringe on judicial independence. That line, according to Adam Dodek, co-author of the forthcoming book "Regulating Judges," has been "viewed as quite a stretch" by some and "baseless or worse" by others. Mandatory training exists elsewhere, he said, and the Canadian judiciary "lags behind the world" in training judges.

Camp's biases were outlandish and egregious. The system would be a joke if he weren't facing an inquiry. But many other judges undoubtedly harbour similar views, hiding them inside legally defensible decisions nonetheless coloured by rape myths and sexism.

If there's any group, other than sexual assault victims, that should want this to change, it's judges.

Bias in one generates suspicion of them all, and makes a mockery of the oath to mete out justice fairly. It feeds the growing crisis of faith in our courts. Already, the vast majority of women don't even bother to report rapes and assaults. They know, because the data on this is irrefutable, that justice for sexual assault is doled out in pitifully few cases.

Judges are, in part, to blame. And there's only one way for them to prove they care about improving the situation: admit, as Camp has, that they have a lot to learn.

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Sully 'lands' with $35.5 million at the box office

Tough-as-nails American girl

INTERVIEW

Riley Keough channels her rebel side in American Honey

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

In American Honey, a road trip movie now playing at the Toronto International Film Festival before it heads to a national release later this year, Riley Keough plays a Fagin-like character, tough-as-nails with a glare that could peel the paint off the walls.

She is Krystal, the leader of a travelling band of door-to-door magazine sellers who picks up new recruits along the way with one simple job interview question: "Do you got anyone who's going to miss you?"

It is a bravura performance in a movie that, once and for all, proves she's not just Elvis Presley's granddaughter; she can really act.

Making the free-form drama with British director Andrea Arnold and a cast of mostly newcomers was an unconventional occurrence for the Girlfriend Experience star.

"I didn't know what the (bleep) anybody else was doing," she says.

"I wasn't on set for anything except for my own stuff. Nobody knew what the movie was about until we watched it. I literally had no idea."

Keough, who has appeared in Magic Mike, Mad Max: Fury Road and will soon be seen in the Netflix film The Discovery and Steven Soderbergh's Logan Lucky, says the lack of traditional structure did "all the right things" for her performance.

"It makes you able to do anything," she says.

"You don't want to get into the habit of only doing things that are structured and safe. Hit your mark and look that way.

"You have nothing, so you actually have to do something. You're not going off a whole script and character arc and knowing all these blah, blah, blah things. You're just existing as this person. You are forced to exist as this person. You don't get a chance to think about anything at all."

Hitting marks and finding the light "is just (bleeping) annoying," she says.

"Excuse my French. This was a nice break from it."

Set in a world where regular folks still open the door for rattily dressed kids selling magazines, it's a story about families lost and families found, about poverty, disenfranchised youth and finding freedom on the road.

"I think Krystal had been doing this for a long time so that's all she knew," Keough says of her tough-talking character.

"This world does exist. I think she grew up 'on crew' and she knows the most. We ran into another mag crew. In the movie you see us shaking hands with another mag crew."

TIFF | Rising star

> **I learned not to drink too much... legitimately**
> Riley Keough on filming American Honey

At well over two-and-a-half hours American Honey has an emphasis on naturalism and all that entails: the mundane and the pulse racing in equal measure.

It's not a traditional road flick. Here, the destination isn't as important as the journey.

Life on the road taught Keough a thing or two. "I learned not to drink too much," she says.

"I really think I learned it. Legitimately."

She laughs, perhaps remembering some long nights while making this movie, then adds in a more serious tone, "I learned a lot of really profound things but I don't know how comfortable I am talking about them."

Elvis Presley's granddaughter Riley Keough plays Krystal, the leader of a travelling band of door-to-door magazine sellers, in American Honey. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

FREE FIRE

Brie Larson is back where it all began

Brie Larson has had an incredible 12 months since debuting Room at last year's Toronto International Film Festival.

For one, she beat the likes of Cate Blanchett and Jennifer Lawrence for the best actress Oscar.

Now, the 26-year-old starlet has no less than five highly-anticipated movies lined up (including the new Marvel superhero blockbuster Captain Marvel).

Indeed, she has come a long way in a very short time period.

"It's amazing being back with the year that I've had," stated Larson during a chat at the Intercontinental Hotel this weekend to discuss her TIFF thriller Free Fire. "I was here in this hotel doing the same thing with Room and there were so many unknowns."

At that time, Larson was a hard-scrabble actress cutting her teeth since childhood in supporting parts in movies or TV — the most notable as a rebellious daughter on Showtime's short-lived series United States of Tara. Until Room, that is.

Based on the smash novel by Emma Donoghue, it stormed the festival and shocked audiences into bestowing it the People's Choice Award.

"I still didn't know if people liked the movie," recalled Larson.

"I remember distinctly being back home and watching the awards ceremony on my cell phone for an hour, wringing my hands, waiting to see what would happen before we won the audience award — it was incredible."

From there, the film's legacy is well-documented — an Oscar win for Larson with three other nominations including Best Picture. This year, Free Fire is burdened with none of the assumptions a follow-up feature starring an Oscar-caliber star might carry.

A violent comic-thriller about an arms deal-gone-wrong, it doesn't aim for awards.

Instead, the thriller was gifted the golden spot as the opening night film at Midnight Madness — TIFF's program for movies a bit off the mainstream.

"It's really cool," said Larson, the day after Free Fire's premiere.

"You gauge it by the audience and their reaction and you could hear that they were in it."

STEVE GOW/METRO

Brie Larson poses with fans at the premiere of Free Fire last week. GETTY IMAGES

YOU CAN DO THIS DENTAL ASSISTANT

‘I know everything about their smiles’

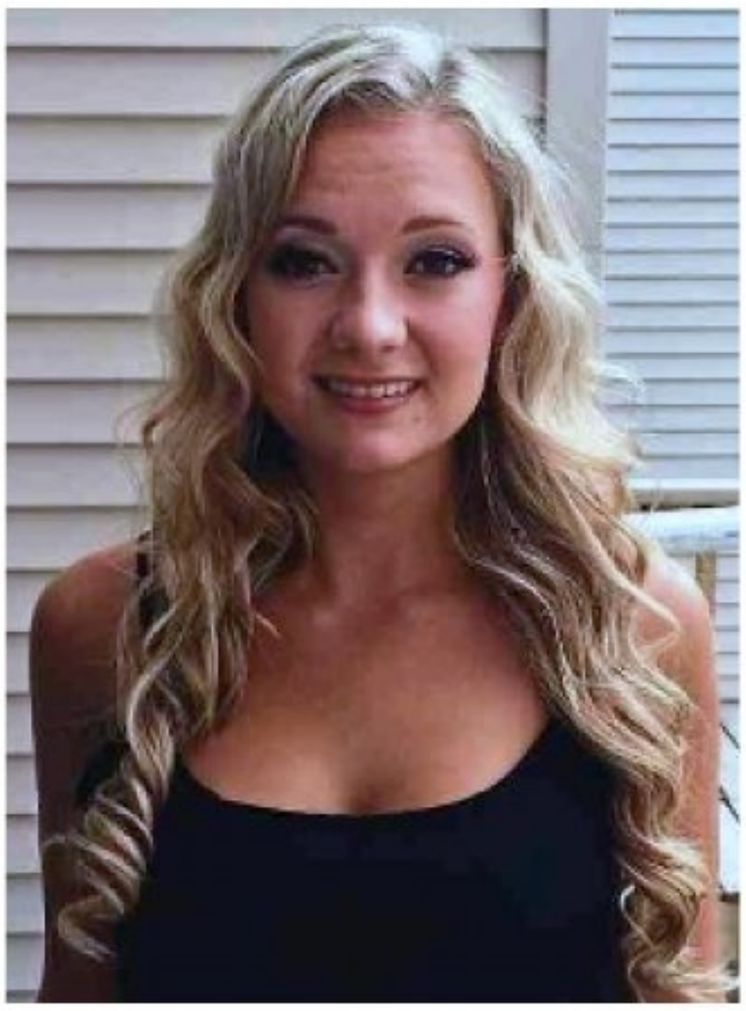
WHY I LIKE MY JOB

Meghan Johnson, 25, Office Manager / Dental Assistant at Dentistry on Centrepointe in Ottawa, Ont.

I love teeth. I couldn’t tell you the colour of my best friend’s eyes, but I know everything about their smile. It was this fascination — combined with my commitment to good oral hygiene and a desire to work in the health care sector — that led me to Durham College’s dental assisting program in 2008.

At the time, the program ran for eight months in an intensive, hands-on learning environment. Tests and practical assessments were given almost daily in courses like biology, radiation practice, clinic practice and preventive dentistry. Despite the intensity, the program truly prepared me for my career. Seven years later, I’ve leveraged my strong technical and interpersonal skills to take on more responsibilities as an office manager.

What I find most appealing about the job is the social aspect. Over the years, I’ve built up a loyal client base and I always look forward to hearing about a patient’s wedding or new grandchild. I also enjoy working in a preventive health care setting, which allows me to help treat cavities, gum disease and inflammation before it becomes a serious problem. I get to smile each day knowing I helped treat a client’s pain or improved their overall wellbeing.



THE BASICS: Dental Assistant

$35,755

Median starting salary for an entry-level dental assistant. Those who specialize in orthodontics or oral surgery tend to earn more, with annual salaries ranging as high as **$53,500**.

+14%

Projected rate of **job growth** over the next 8 years.

Data for this feature was provided by payscale.com, onetonline.org, trade-schools.ca and durhamcollege.ca

HOW TO START

Dental assistant programs are offered in both public and private post-secondary institutions, and can last anywhere from eight to 16 months. Applicants can expect to delve into general courses in biology, chemistry and anatomy in addition to core material in dental radiology and radiography, oral health, record maintenance and nutrition. Most institutions offer field placements as part of the curriculum, providing students with practical clinic experience in preparation for the mandatory National Dental Assisting Board exam.

WHERE YOU CAN GO

Certified dental assistants can find employment in virtually any municipality, given the increasing number of clinics in large cities and suburban areas. Canada’s unemployment rate in this sector is considerably low, and many trained professionals find rewarding work in general dental practices, hospital dental clinics, the armed forces and correctional institutions. Graduates seeking career advancement may also pursue continuing studies in dental hygiene or dental office management.

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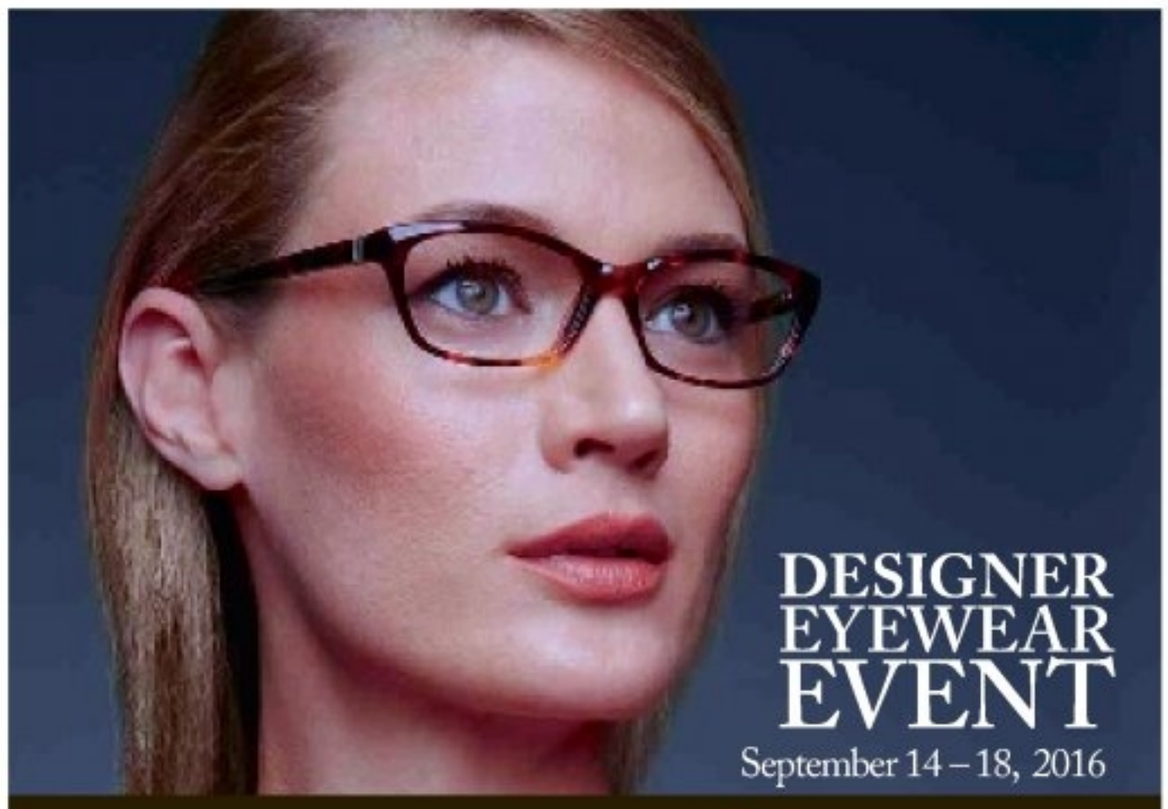

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HUDSON’S BAY

Jasmine Lorimer put her love life on TV

INTERVIEW

Canada's first Bachelorette an adventurous and free spirit

When you think about the concept of a woman dating up to 20 men at one time for a reality TV show, the first phrase that comes to mind isn't "old-fashioned."

Yet those are the words that Jasmine Lorimer, the 27-year-old star of The Bachelorette Canada, uses when explaining why she agreed to live out two months of her love life on TV.

"The appealing thing about this is you do get a lot of face-to-face time and you're taking away the phones, and you're taking away the texting and all those things that can be said over text or misconstrued, and . . . all of the development of your relationships happens one on one," she says.

"Although it seems strange to do it on reality TV, it's also kind of old-fashioned in a weird way. . . . If it wasn't televised, I mean, aside from all the extravagant dates that happen that you probably wouldn't be going on, but just the actual quality time on dates, it's a very normal feeling."

Jasmine Lorimer, a hairstylist and part-time model from Pemberton, B.C. is Canada's first Bachelorette. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The country gets to judge for itself when The Bachelorette Canada debuts on W Network Tuesday at 9 p.m.

It's the maiden Canadian journey of this spinoff of the U.S. Bachelor franchise, in which a woman seeks a mate by dating multiple men.

Canada had two seasons of The Bachelor, in 2012 and 2014 on City TV, but this is its first Bachelorette.

Lorimer hadn't watched the U.S. version for quite a while when she got offered the gig, so she did some catching up. What she came away with was a determination to be herself on TV.

But why look for a husband on a show in the first place?

The hairstylist and part-time model had just moved to the small town of Pemberton, B.C., from Vancouver (she's originally from Kenora, Ont.), not exactly a singles haven, and wasn't sure how to meet someone to share the area's peace and natural beauty.

Besides, she describes herself as an adventurous free spirit and this definitely qualifies as an adventure. Lorimer concedes there's no way to prepare yourself for the experience of dating so many people. In fact, she had never dated more than one person at a time and had to learn to "compartmentalize" relationships.

"I never was able to do that. As soon as I like somebody I just like them and I've got blinders on. . . . The weird thing is before going onto this show I had been saying to myself mentally, 'OK, the next time I get into a relationship I'm not gonna put all my eggs in one basket' and so there was my ultimate eggless basket."

Nor could she prepare for the emotional toll of breaking up with so many people in such a short period of time.

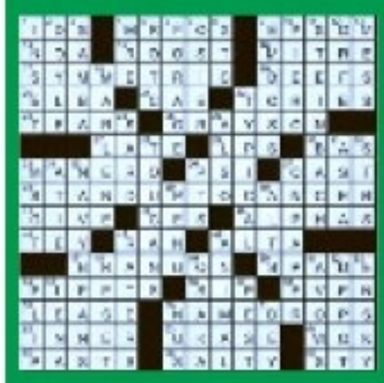
"It became difficult at the end," she said (and no, she can't tell us if she ended up engaged). "(Bachelor and Bachelorette contestants) always say I never imagined it would be this hard. It really is like that and you can imagine but, until you're in it, oh, it's heartbreaking at times."

So yes, there will be tears. But Lorimer also says she woke up excited about every day of filming. "I really did go into this wholeheartedly, and with the best intentions and with my heart on the line. I did not hold back and I think that the viewers will see that when they watch.

"I went through a lot of hurt through this thing, but I experienced so many good things and took so many positive things from it, and I have no regrets."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

PLAY Yesterday's Answers
from your daily crossword and Sudoku



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FROM THE EDITORS OF THE KIT
compact

metro SPORTS

USTA officials say a 20-second clock to start points is among the changes being considered to make the game more TV friendly

Hawks swoop in to snatch win from Fins

NFL

Wilson leads comeback effort despite ankle injury

Another fourth-quarter comeback for Russell Wilson. This time with an added degree of difficulty.

Hobbled by an ankle injury, Wilson pulled off another late rally, throwing a two-yard touchdown pass to Doug Baldwin with 31 seconds left and giving the Seahawks a 12-10 win over the Miami Dolphins on Sunday in Seattle.

"We looked after him a little bit. We weren't sure what he could do," Seattle coach Pete Carroll said. "We didn't want to tax him too much."

Seattle had no choice but to rely on Wilson on a day the expected NFC contenders looked flawed offensively and buckled defensively in the fourth quarter. Seattle yielded an 86-yard touchdown drive to Ryan Tannehill that gave the Dolphins a 10-6 lead with 4:08 remaining.

That's when Wilson went to work, playing on a right ankle that twisted badly in the third quarter as he was sacked by Ndamukong Suh. Seattle converted fourth-and-1 early in the drive on a seven-yard run by Christine Michael, but the big play was Wilson finding Baldwin for 22 yards on a crossing route on fourth-and-4 near midfield.

Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson injured his ankle when he was stepped on by Dolphins defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh on Sunday. DEAN RUTZ/THE SEATTLE TIMES VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Four plays later, Wilson hit Baldwin in the corner of the end zone to give Seattle the lead — and finally exhale after a tougher-than-expected opener.

"There's a feeling of familiarity. (Wilson's) been there before. He's come through," Seattle cornerback Richards Sherman said. "There is confidence. You believe in your guys."

Wilson's 19th fourth-quarter or overtime comeback ruined Adam Gase's debut as coach in Miami. The Dolphins were stymied by Seattle's defence for three quarters before putting together an impressive drive to take the lead.

Miami had just 145 yards total offence until that drive. Tannehill hit Jarvis Landry for 28 yards and Damien Williams for 29 to reach the Seattle 2. Two plays later, Tannehill bulled across the goal-line on a designed draw. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEEK 1 SCOREBOARD

THURSDAY
- Broncos 21, Panthers 20

SUNDAY
- Ravens 13, Bills 7
- Texans 23, Bears 14
- Bengals 23, Jets 22
- Eagles 29, Browns 10
- Packers 27, Jaguars 23
- Vikings 25, Titans 16
- Raiders 35, Saints 34
- Chiefs 33, Chargers 27
- Buccaneers 31, Falcons 24
- Seahawks 12, Dolphins 10
- Lions 39, Colts 35
- Giants 20, Cowboys 19
- Patriots 23 Arizona 21

MONDAY
- Steelers at Washington
- Rams at San Francisco

The Chiefs' Marcus Peters on Sunday. JOHN SLEEZER/THE KANSAS CITY STAR VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANTHEM PROTESTS

Signs of solidarity

Opening day saw Kansas City cornerback Marcus Peters raise a black-gloved fist during the national anthem, a protest amplified later Sunday when four Miami Dolphins kneeled on the sideline as The Star Spangled Banner played in Seattle.

The protests were inspired by San Francisco backup quarterback Colin Kaepernick who has recently sat or taken a knee during the anthem to call attention to what he termed the oppression of blacks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dolphins Jelani Jenkins, from left, Arian Foster, Michael Thomas and Kenny Stills kneel on Sunday in Seattle. STEPHEN BRASHEAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. OPEN

Stan 'The Man' at Flushing Meadows

Stan Wawrinka is the first to acknowledge he hasn't always been the most consistent player — or the strongest mentally. That's why, when he shows his mettle during a match, he likes to point his right index finger to his temple.

That signature gesture got a lot of use in the U.S. Open final Sunday, when Wawrinka surprisingly managed to wear down Novak Djokovic and beat the defending champion 6-7 (1), 6-4, 7-5, 6-3 for his first U.S. Open title and third Grand Slam trophy overall.

On Saturday, Angelique Kerber won her first U.S. Open and second Grand Slam her big season.

Wawrinka has won only five of his 24 career meetings against Djokovic, but has now beaten the 12-time major champion on the way to each of his own Grand Slam titles, including in the 2014 Australian Open quarter-finals and 2015 French Open final. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stan Wawrinka GETTY IMAGES

MLB

BoSox build 2-game lead atop AL East

Jackie Bradley Jr., David Ortiz and Hanley Ramirez all hit home runs as the Boston Red Sox's impressive offence overwhelmed the Toronto Blue Jays 11-8 in a wild game on Sunday afternoon.

The loss drops the Blue Jays to two games back of Boston for first place in the AL East. Toronto had been in first as recently as Sept. 6, but has lost seven of its past 10 games to fall behind the Red Sox. The Jays are now tied with Baltimore for second place.

Edwin Encarnacion had two homers for Toronto (78-64), while Troy Tulowitzki added a grand slam. THE CANADIAN PRESS

David Ortiz hit his 31st home run of the season on Sunday. TOM SZCZERBOWSKI/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Johnson's latest win pushes him into FedEx Cup lead

Powerful off the tee and relentless with the putter, Dustin Johnson didn't give anyone much of a chance Sunday by closing with a 5-under 67 to win the BMW Championship by three shots and move to the top of the FedEx Cup.

Johnson won for the third time in his last eight tournaments. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Donovan makes triumphant return to Galaxy lineup

Landon Donovan returned to the LA Galaxy as a second-half substitute Sunday night, ending his 21-month MLS retirement in their 4-2 victory over Orlando City.

Donovan, the top scorer in the history of MLS and the U.S. men's national team, announced his comeback with the Galaxy three days earlier. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RECIPE Mushroom Pear Melt

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Start the week off with a no-stress dinner of a fancied-up grilled cheese sandwich. The swipe of mustard against the sweetness of the pear makes it irresistible.

Ready in 15 minutes
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 5 minutes
Serves 1

Ingredients
- butter
- cremini mushrooms, thinly sliced
- pumpernickel bread
- Dijon mustard (optional)
- Fontina cheese, grated
- pears, thinly sliced

Directions

1. In a skillet, melt a pat of butter over medium heat. Toss in sliced mushrooms and push around until they soften. Remove from pan and set aside. Wipe pan.

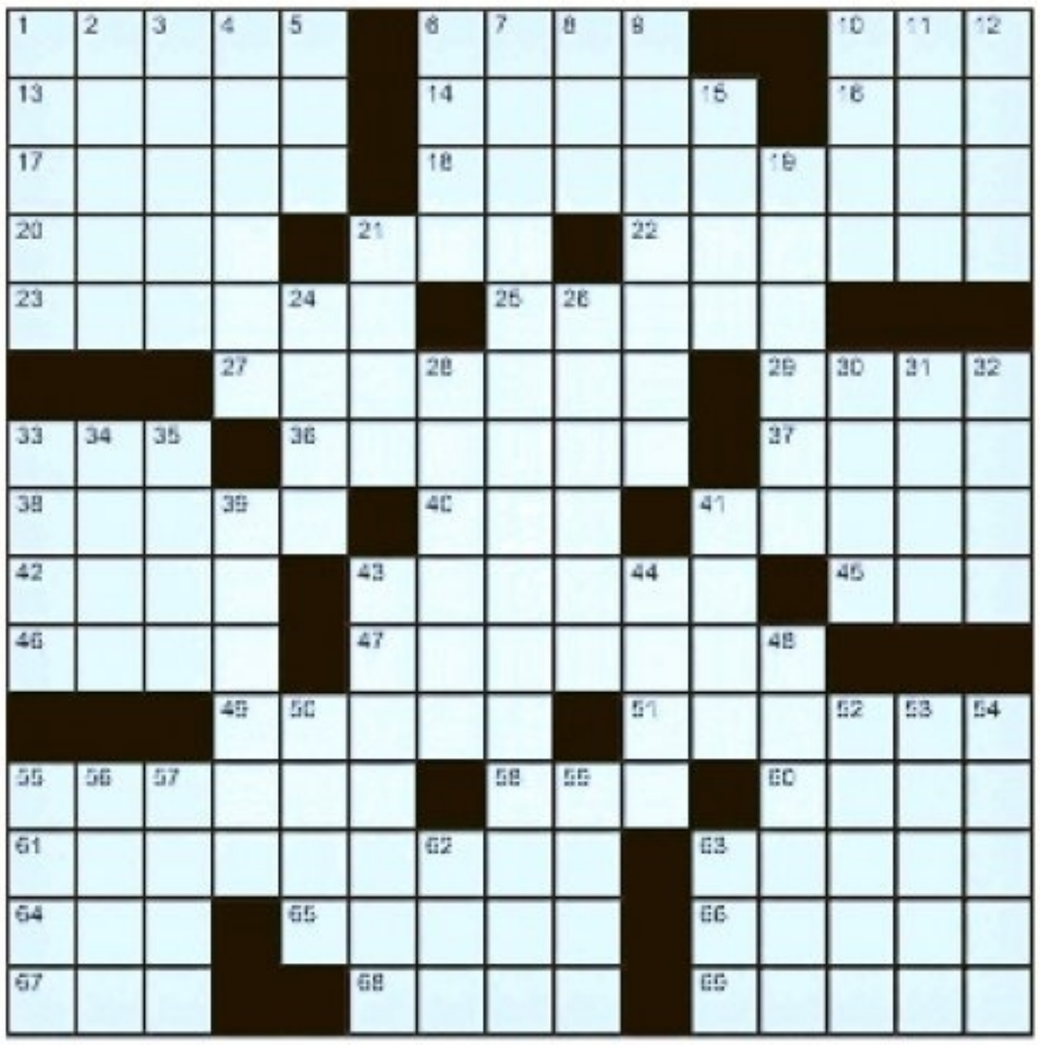
2. Butter bread (and swipe other side with a bit of Dijon for adventurous kids or adults) and place each piece in pan, butter side down. Place a handful of Fontina on each, then press down a couple of slices of pear, followed by a spoonful of mushrooms. Place another piece of pumpernickel on top, butter side out. Let that sizzle away for 2 or 3 minutes, peaking at the underside using a spatula to see that your bread is toasting not burning. Flip it.

3. Allow the sandwich to grill for a couple more minutes then remove from the heat. Cut in half and serve warm.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. To no _ (Waste of time basically)
6. Not _ _ (Not in any way)
10. Frequently, short-style
13. Don't _ words (Tell it like it is)
14. Ms. Blakley of "Nashville" (1975)
16. Giving-driving-directions word
17. Irritate
18. Therapy/care
20. Do part of a cashier's work
21. Lough _ (Lake in Ireland)
22. Unrefined
23. Compound in glass
25. Onward
27. Sweet-talks
29. Hogwash
33. List stopper [abbr.]
36. Promenade proudly
37. Demon
38. Gwen Stefani band, No _
40. Farm animal
41. Questionnaire choice
42. Go _ detail (Elaborate)
43. Bickered
45. 'Bon a _ lecher les doigts' (KFC's 'finger lickin" slogan, in French)
46. "_ Wolf" (1985) starring Michael J. Fox
47. France 1793: Gets Louis XVI's caput
49. Green hue
51. "Anchors Aweigh" military gr.: 2 wds.
55. Capital of Colombia
58. _-en-Provence, France
60. Frozen beverage company
61. Premiering of a product
63. Basketball, for example
64. Electrical resistance unit
65. _ Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands, now)
66. Courage
67. Public transit mode
68. Pine for
69. Prefix relating to 'Bones'

DOWN
1. Collect over time
2. Leonardo da _ (b.1452 - d.1519)
3. Year's historic record
4. Like any famous symbol
5. Grazing land
6. Puccini aria: "Vissi d'_"
7. Terrestrial region in the Canadian Shield, Laurentian _ _
8. Dvorak's "Symphony No. 9 _ _ Minor"
9. Earl Grey's decorative warming cover?: 2 wds.
10. Concluded
11. Fish bits
12. "To Kill a Mockingbird" (1962) character, Sheriff Heck _
15. Swanky College Prince William attended
19. Cadaver crawlee
21. Aristocrat of India
24. Fling, as a fisherman
26. "A _ of Their Own" (1992)
28. Nova Scotia's provincial bird
30. Expressions of Eww!-iness
31. Liberate
32. Common household greenery
33. Correct the content
34. Timbre
35. Paul McCartney, The '_' Beatle
39. Candy
41. Un-evens
43. Plains of _ (Historic attraction in Quebec City)
44. Waters: French
48. Wesley of "Passenger 57" (1992)
50. Engrave
52. Put on _ _ (Dress for Winter)
53. Glass, in Gaspe
54. Bryan Adams' "The Best Was _ _ Come"
55. Formless form
56. Honolulu's home
57. Teeth, roots ...whats?
59. Supermarkets, e.g.
62. Ancient Rome's trois
63. TV: Showtime's website, _.com

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
It's Monday, and some people are in a bad mood, especially co-workers and people at work. This means patience is your only recourse to make this day as smooth as possible.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Parents must be patient with their kids today, because everyone, including children, is argumentative. Try to avoid touchy situations that can trigger conflict.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Do what you can to keep the peace at home so that you have domestic harmony. Be patient in everything you do, in order to avoid accidents, both verbal and physical.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
This is an accident-prone day, which means you have to pay attention to everything you say and do. Above all, guard against knee-jerk reactions to others. Be cool.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Money squabbles might arise today. This means today is a poor day to discuss something that might trigger these arguments. However, you have the energy to make money.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Today Mercury is in your sign, at odds with fiery Mars, which can make you touchy and irritable with others. Therefore, practise patience in all your dealings with everyone.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You have lots of intellectual energy today. If you use this mental energy to do research or look for solutions to old problems, you will be pleased with your results.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Do not get embroiled in arguments with younger people today or members of groups, because it will be pointless. Choose another day for important discussions..

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Your dealings with authority figures — bosses, parents and VIPs — will be challenging today, because people are too quick to disagree and give strong opinions. Keep a low profile if you can. Be smart.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Avoid controversial subjects like politics, religion and racial issues today, because many people are just looking for a fight. Focus on preserving your own peace of mind.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Disputes about shared property, inheritances and anything that you own jointly with others might arise today. Therefore, postpone these discussions until another day.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You might attract someone today who is touchy or defensive. Actually, discussions with friends and partners are equally difficult. This means you have to be tactful.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

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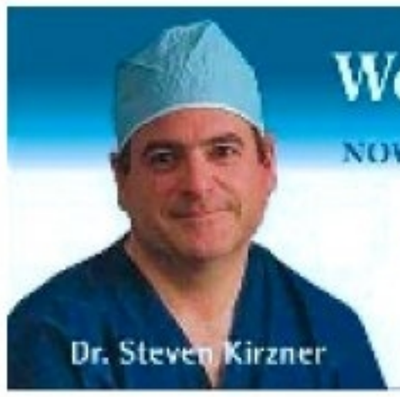

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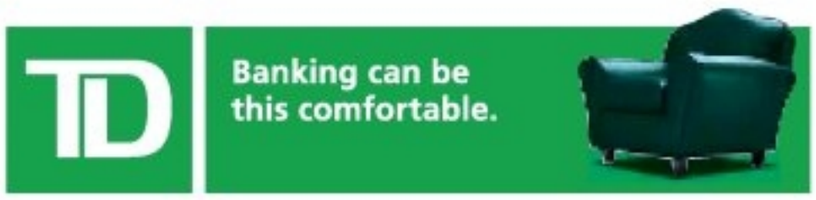

[1] Based on a comparison of 2015 Aeroplan Flight Reward bookings against actual market base fares and leading financial institutions' travel rewards programs' terms and conditions. [2] Welcome Bonus of 15,000 Aeroplan Miles ("Welcome Bonus Miles") will be awarded to the Aeroplan Member account associated with the TD Aeroplan *Visa Infinite* Card Account ("Account") only after the first Purchase is made on the Account. To receive the additional 10,000 Aeroplan Miles, you must also: (a) apply for an Account between September 3, 2016, and December 2, 2016; and (b) make $1,000 in Purchases on your Account, including your first Purchase, within 90 days of Account approval. To receive the additional 5,000 Aeroplan Miles you must also (a) Add an Authorized User between September 3, 2016, and December 2, 2016; (b) Authorized User must call and activate their Card by January 16, 2017, and (c) your Account must be in good standing at the time this 5,000 Bonus Aeroplan Miles is awarded. You can have a maximum of three (3) Authorized Users on your Account but you will only receive 1 (one) 5,000 Bonus Aeroplan Miles offer. Annual Fee for each Authorized User Card added to the Account will apply. The Primary Cardholder is responsible for all charges to the Account, including those made by any Authorized User. If you have opened an Account in the last 6 months, you will not be eligible for these offers. We reserve the right to limit the number of Accounts opened by and the number of miles awarded to any one person. Please allow 8 weeks after the conditions for each offer are fulfilled for the miles to be credited to your Aeroplan Member account. Offers may be changed, withdrawn or extended at any time and cannot be combined with any other offer unless otherwise specified. These miles are not eligible for Aeroplan status. All trade-marks are property of their respective owners. ® The Air Canada maple leaf logo and Air Canada are registered trade-marks of Air Canada, used under license. ® The Aeroplan logo and Aeroplan are registered trade-marks of Aimia Canada Inc. ® The TD logo and other trade-marks are the property of The Toronto-Dominion Bank.